

new phase of his career, I am pleased to recognize his incredible work for the Golden State.

For his remarkable accomplishments, it is my honor to recognize Jim Beall. His decades of commitment and contributions to the City of San Jose, Santa Clara County, and the State of California are worthy of commendation and admiration.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MRS. KAREN SCHUETT

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 11, 2021*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of Mrs. Karen Schuett and her retirement from teaching.

Mrs. Schuett began her career at Horace Mann Elementary School in the Bakersfield City School District in 1983, before teaching in the Panama Buena Vista Unified School District at Stockdale Elementary School in 1984. For the remainder of her career, she taught primarily 2nd and 3rd grades at Castle, Sandrini, Laurelglen, and Hart Schools. In addition, as part of the Sister City Program, Mrs. Schuett taught English as a Second Language at Wakayama Municipal High School in Wakayama, Japan, from 1988 to 1989.

During her career, Mrs. Schuett served numerous committees and held various leadership positions in efforts to ensure the best possible education for her students and the entire community. She also was awarded several recognitions, including 1992 Teacher of the Year, the California Teachers Association State WHO Award for 2009–2010, and the California Teachers Association Member-in-Politics Ted Bass Award.

Two of Mrs. Schuett's proudest professional accomplishments are restoring the Christmas lights on Truxtun Avenue as part of a class project, which was nominated by the Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce for a Beautiful Bakersfield Award, and founding the Boys of Color mentoring program. The Boys of Color program was started in 2003 to bring community members to the school site to mentor young Black students. The program has grown to 50 participants and has been recognized by the Kern County Martin Luther King, Jr. Committee, the NAACP, the California Teachers Association, and the California legislature.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the career of Mrs. Karen Schuett and wishing her the best in retirement.

#### RECOGNIZING CAT DAVIS

**HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 11, 2021*

Mrs. RODGERS of Washington. Madam Speaker, my heart is heavy as I rise today to honor the life of my dear friend, Cat Davis, who passed away on May 26, 2021. Cat was a remarkable soul, and she was one of God's greatest gifts to everyone who knew her. My prayers are with Cat's family as we mourn her passing.

I first met Cat and her mom, Sally, at a unity dinner that I hosted several years ago in Spokane, Washington. Cat had bright purple hair that caught everyone's attention. When she first approached me, she gave me a big hug, and I knew right away that her stand out hair color was the perfect match for the clear vibrancy she had for life.

In that moment, not I, nor anyone else could have imagined the depth of suffering she had been enduring. Under the surface, Cat was fighting for her life as she battled Scleroderma, a rare autoimmune disease without a cure. During our first meeting, Cat told me she needed a stem cell transplant, but Medicare refused to cover the surgery. This would have devastated most people, but not Cat. Instead, her will to live and her desire to fight this illness only grew stronger.

In June 2017, Cat and Sally travelled to D.C. to meet with the Director for the Centers of Medicare & Medicaid Services in my office in the Capitol. Cat passionately shared her story and pleaded for them to grant the transplant surgery, and they responded positively. It had been worth the difficult trip from Spokane to D.C.

Cat would eventually be granted approval for surgery, and with it, a second lease on life. I watched as Cat continued to approach each day with hope, enthusiasm, and deep understanding of the impact a life lived for others has. As our friendship continued to deepen over the years, she and her mom became a special example to me of love enduring all things.

As the Bible says in I Corinthians, "Three things will last forever—faith, hope, and love—and the greatest of these is love." Cat's love and friendship will forever be imprinted on my heart, and for that, I will always be grateful.

Madam Speaker, Cat Davis lived an amazing life that deserves to be celebrated. In honor of Cat's love, legacy, and passion that has inspired all those who knew her, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Cat Davis. May God grant her eternal peace in His kingdom.

#### HONORING SGT. NICK ERNSTES

**HON. GREG PENCE**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 11, 2021*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroic actions of Sgt. Nick Ernstes of the Hancock County Sheriff's Department.

While off-duty, Sgt. Ernstes saved the life of a woman who had been stabbed repeatedly in the parking lot of a local convenience store.

After arriving on the scene, Sgt. Ernstes acted quickly and applied the proper medical attention that likely prevented the woman from losing her life.

Thank God for Sgt. Nick Ernstes for his heroic actions and for serving our community. And I thank every member of law enforcement for bravely fulfilling their mission to protect and serve.

#### RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF THOMAS RAY POWELL

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 11, 2021*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Thomas Ray Powell of Ypsilanti, Michigan. His lifetime of public service is worthy of commendation.

Mr. Powell was born on November 9, 1949, in Stamford, Texas, to Lantz Powell and Mary Falcon. He spent his childhood in numerous states before attending the University of Missouri—Kansas City. Upon his graduation, Mr. Powell entered the United States Army as a medical laboratory technician, stationed at Tripler Hospital in Hawaii. He married Ms. Marianne Parizek on December 30, 1971, and together they had two children, Megan and Benjamin. Mr. Powell received a master's degree in Health Services Administration in 1980 and worked in hospitals all around the country, including the VA Hospital in Kansas City, Truman Medical Center, Davenport Medical Center, Baker Hospital, and the Roper St. Francis Health System.

In 2001, Mr. Powell decided to pursue his lifelong dream of teaching high school science. A year later, he received his teaching certificate and taught biology, chemistry, environmental science, and forensic science at Woodland High School and Summerville High School in Charleston, South Carolina. After retiring and moving to Ypsilanti in 2015 to be closer to his family, Mr. Powell served as a long-term science substitute at Saline High School.

Mr. Powell is beloved by his former students and family. No matter where he goes, Mr. Powell has been active in his community, serving as the president of the North Charleston Breakfast Rotary Club and as a trusted mentor to countless high schoolers.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Thomas Ray Powell. He has supported so many throughout his life, and all who know him can attest to his caring personality. I join with Mr. Powell's wife, Marianne; two children, Megan and Benjamin; granddaughter, Nora; former students; family; and friends in extending my thanks to him for his lifelong dedication to public service.

#### TRIBUTE TO IKE BOOTSMA

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 11, 2021*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Eastvale City Council Member Ike Bootsma, who passed away on Friday, May 14, 2021. Ike was a dedicated leader in our Riverside County community and he will be deeply missed.

Ike was one of nine children born to Trynje and Jim Bootsma, his Dutch immigrant parents who were among the first families to establish a dairy in Chino Valley in the late 1930s. Following in the agricultural and entrepreneurial footsteps of his parents, Ike started his own calf ranch in 1975. As the area began to grow and local dairy farms began to make